

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~—recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, further comprising:

digital-to-analog converting means for producing an analog signal by digital-to-analog converting said digital data which has been subjected to the reproduction processing by said reproducing unit; and

~~asaid jack provided on one end side in said longitudinal direction of the case to allow an external connection plug to be inserted therein, which has~~ having a terminal for outputting said analog signal obtained from said digital-to-analog converting means, to said ~~connection~~ plug inserted.

3. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~—recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 2, wherein

said jack is provided in said case so that said ~~connection~~ plug is projected from the other end side toward the one end side in said longitudinal direction.

4. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~—recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 3, wherein

said jack is provided so that the direction of inserting said ~~connection~~ plug is slant with respect to said longitudinal direction of said case.

5. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~—recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, further comprising

strap attaching means which is provided on said one end in the longitudinal direction of said case for attaching a predetermined strap thereto.

6. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 5, wherein

said strap attaching means allows said dangling strap to be attached thereto.

7. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, further comprising:

a circuit board which is contained in said case with loading an Integrated Circuit package which constitutes at least a part of said control unit; and

projecting parts for containing a part of said circuit board, which are formed so that a part of said case projects in accordance with the form of said circuit board.

8. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 7, wherein said projecting parts are formed in said longitudinal direction of said case.

9. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, further comprising

a clip which is provided on said one end side in said longitudinal direction of said case to attach the case to a user's body, clothes, and belongings;

10. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, further comprising:

an interface for taking in said digital data which is transferred from outside; and

recording means for recording said digital data taken in by said interface, to said storage medium.

11. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 10, wherein
said interface takes in said digital data which is transferred from said outside on Internet.

12. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 11, wherein
said interface is a connector based on the Universal Serial Bus standard.

13. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, wherein
said control unit is configured to read out said digital data which has been compressed with a MPEG Audio Layer-3 method, from said storage medium, in accordance with said reproduction instruction from said manipulating unit.

14. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, wherein
said control unit is configured to read out said digital data which has been compressed by an Adaptive Transform Acoustic Coding-3 method, from said storage medium, in accordance with said reproduction instruction from said manipulating unit.

15. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~-recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 36, wherein
said case is formed in a cylindrical form.

16. (canceled)

17. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~—handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, comprising:

~~digital to analog converting means for producing an analog signal by digital to analog converting said digital data which has been subjected to the reproduction processing by said reproducing unit; and~~

~~a jack provided on said one end side in said longitudinal direction of said case to allow an external connection plug to be inserted therein, which has a terminal for outputting said analog signal obtained from said digital to analog converting means to said connection plug inserted, and wherein~~

said strap has a ring part and a holding means for integrally holding a code introduced from said ~~connection plug~~ and said ring part.

18. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 17, wherein said ring part comprises:

band member; and

sticking means for sticking one end on the back plane of said band member to the other end on the front plane of the band member.

19. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 18, wherein

said sticking means is a sticking tape for detachably sticking said one end on said back plane of said band member to said the other end on said front plane of the band member.

20. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 17, wherein

said jack is provided on the one end side in said longitudinal direction of said case.

21. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 17, wherein

said jack is provided in said case so that said ~~connection~~ plug is projected from the other end side toward said one end side in said longitudinal direction of said case.

22. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 17, wherein

said jack is provided in said case so that the direction of inserting said ~~connector~~ plug is slanted with respect to said longitudinal direction of said case.

23. (currently amended) The portable recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, further comprising:

a circuit board which is contained with loading an Integrated Circuit package which constitutes at least a part of said control unit; and

projecting parts for containing a part of said circuit board, which are formed so that a part of said case projects corresponding to the form of said circuit board.

24. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 23, wherein

said projecting parts are formed in said longitudinal direction of said case.

25. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, further comprising

a clip provided on said one end side in said longitudinal direction of said case, to attach the case to a user's body, clothes or belongings.

26. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, further comprising:

an interface for taking in said digital data which is transferred from outside; and

recording means for recording said digital data taken in by said interface, to said storage medium.

27. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, wherein

said interface takes in said digital data which is transferred from said outside on Internet.

28. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, wherein

said interface is a connector based on the Universal Serial Bus standard.

29. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, wherein

said control unit is configured to read out said digital data which has been compressed with a MPEG Audio Layer-3 method, from said storage medium, in accordance with said reproduction instruction from said manipulating unit.

30. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld

recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, wherein

said control unit is configured to read out said digital data which has been compressed by an Adaptive Transform Acoustic Coding-3 method, from said storage medium, in accordance with said reproduction instruction from said manipulating unit.

31. (currently amended) The ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to Claim 37, wherein

said case is formed in a cylindrical form.

32. (canceled)

33. (canceled)

34. (canceled)

35. (canceled)

36. (currently amended) A ~~portable~~handheld recording and/or reproducing device, comprising:

a housing case~~storage medium for storage digital data;~~

a manipulating unit configured to be arranged on a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of said housing case at one end side~~provide a reproduction instruction for causing reproducing said digital data stored in said storage medium;~~

a strap attaching unit configured to be arranged at the one end side;

a jack configured to be arranged at the one end side, said jack having an opening arranged to receive a plug inserted from a direction of the one end side;

a storage medium configured to store digital data;

~~a reproducing unit configured to reproduce said stored digital data; and~~

~~a control unit configured to read said digital data from said storage medium in accordance with said reproduction instruction from said manipulating unit, send the read digital data to said reproducing unit, and control said reproducing unit to reproduce the stored digital data in accordance with an input from said manipulating unit, so as to perform reproduction processing on the read digital data; and~~

~~a said housing case containing said storage medium, said control unit and said reproducing unit, and~~

~~said jack configured to output an audio signal generated by said reproducing unit~~

~~—said manipulating unit is arranged on a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of said housing case at one end thereof.~~

37. (currently amended) ~~A portable~~ The handheld recording and/or reproducing device according to claim 36, further comprising:

~~a storage medium for storage digital data;~~
~~—a manipulating unit configured to provide a reproduction instruction for causing reproducing said digital data stored in said storage medium;~~

~~—a reproducing unit configured to reproduce said stored digital data;~~

~~—a control unit configured to read said digital data from said storage medium in accordance with said reproduction instruction from said manipulating unit, send the read digital data to said reproducing unit, and control said reproducing unit so as to perform reproduction processing on the read digital data; and~~

~~a housing case containing said storage medium, said control unit and said reproducing unit;~~

~~a strap attaching unit provided on one end side of said case; and~~

~~a strap to be attached to said strap attaching unit,
said manipulating unit is arranged on a plane perpendicular to a longitudinal direction of said housing case at the one end side thereof.~~